

**SEC. 628. AUTHORIZATION OF SPECIAL PAY AND ACCESSION
BONUS FOR PHARMACY OFFICERS.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF SPECIAL PAY AND BONUS- Chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 302h the following new sections:

`Sec. 302i. Special pay: pharmacy officers

`(a) ARMY, NAVY, AND AIR FORCE PHARMACY OFFICERS- Under regulations prescribed pursuant to section 303a of this title, the Secretary of the military department concerned may, subject to subsection (c), pay special pay at the rates specified in subsection (d) to an officer who--

`(1) is a pharmacy officer in the Medical Service Corps of the Army or Navy or the Biomedical Sciences Corps of the Air Force; and

`(2) is on active duty under a call or order to active duty for a period of not less than one year.

`(b) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE CORPS- Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary of Health and Human Services may pay special pay at the rates specified in subsection (d) to an officer who--

`(1) is an officer in the Regular or Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service and is designated as a pharmacy officer; and

`(2) is on active duty under a call or order to active duty for a period of not less than one year.

`(c) LIMITATION- Special pay may not be paid under this section to an officer serving in a pay grade above pay grade O-6.

`(d) RATE OF SPECIAL PAY- The rate of special pay paid to an officer under subsection (a) or (b) is as follows:

`(1) \$3,000 per year, if the officer is undergoing pharmacy internship training or has less than 3 years of creditable service.

`(2) \$7,000 per year, if the officer has at least 3 but less than 6 years of creditable service and is not undergoing pharmacy internship training.

`(3) \$7,000 per year, if the officer has at least 6 but less than 8 years of creditable service.

`(4) \$12,000 per year, if the officer has at least 8 but less than 12 years of creditable service.

`(5) \$10,000 per year, if the officer has at least 12 but less than 14 years of creditable service.

`(6) \$9,000 per year, if the officer has at least 14 but less than 18 years of creditable service.

`(7) \$8,000 per year, if the officer has 18 or more years of creditable service.

`Sec. 302j. Special pay: accession bonus for pharmacy officers

`(a) **ACCESSION BONUS AUTHORIZED**- A person who is a graduate of an accredited pharmacy school and who, during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 and ending on September 30, 2004, executes a written agreement described in subsection (c) to accept a commission as an officer of a uniformed service and remain on active duty for a period of not less than 4 years may, upon acceptance of the agreement by the Secretary concerned, be paid an accession bonus in an amount determined by the Secretary concerned.

`(b) **LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF BONUS**- The amount of an accession bonus under subsection (a) may not exceed \$30,000.

`(c) **LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY FOR BONUS**- A person may not be paid a bonus under subsection (a) if--

`(1) the person, in exchange for an agreement to accept an appointment as a warrant or commissioned officer, received financial assistance from the Department of Defense or the Department of Health and Human Services to pursue a course of study in pharmacy; or

`(2) the Secretary concerned determines that the person is not qualified to become and remain licensed as a pharmacist.

`(d) **AGREEMENT**- The agreement referred to in subsection (a) shall provide that, consistent with the needs of the uniformed service concerned, the person executing the agreement shall be assigned to duty, for the period of obligated service covered by the agreement, as a pharmacy officer in the Medical Service Corps of the Army or Navy, a biomedical sciences officer in the Air Force designated as a pharmacy officer, or a

pharmacy officer of the Public Health Service.

`(e) REPAYMENT- (1) An officer who receives a payment under subsection (a) and who fails to become and remain licensed as a pharmacist during the period for which the payment is made shall refund to the United States an amount equal to the full amount of such payment.

`(2) An officer who voluntarily terminates service on active duty before the end of the period agreed to be served under subsection (a) shall refund to the United States an amount that bears the same ratio to the amount paid to the officer as the unserved part of such period bears to the total period agreed to be served.

`(3) An obligation to reimburse the United States under paragraph (1) or (2) is for all purposes a debt owed to the United States.

`(4) A discharge in bankruptcy under title 11 that is entered less than 5 years after the termination of an agreement under this section does not discharge the person signing such agreement from a debt arising under such agreement or this subsection. This paragraph applies to any case commenced under title 11 after the date of the enactment of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001.'.

(b) ADMINISTRATION- Section 303a of title 37, United States Code, is amended by striking `302h' each place it appears and inserting `302j'.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT- The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 5 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 302h the following new items:

`302i. Special pay: pharmacy officers.

`302j. Special pay: accession bonus for pharmacy officers.'.